

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 12084 071536Z

ACTION IO-14

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, UN, APER

SUBJECT: EMPLOYMENT OF AMERICANS - CANDIDACY OF FRANCIS
PEEL FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL POSITION IN THE SEYCHELLES

1. DURING A VISIT TO THE SEYCHELLES ISLAND SEVERAL MONTHS
AGO ON A SPECIAL PROJECT FOR THE ILO, MR. FRANCIS PEEL,
AN AMERICAN CITIZEN HAVING A LEGAL BACKGROUND PRESENTLY
LIVING IN GENEVA, WAS OFFERED A POSITION AS THE ATTORNEY
GENERAL OF THE SEYCHELLES BY ITS PRESIDENT. UNFORTUNATELY
THE COMPENSATION OFFERED WAS INSUFFICIENT TO WARRANT
MR. PEEL'S CONSIDERATION OF THE JOB UNLESS THE DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN WHAT WAS BEING OFFERED (ABOUT \$12,000 PA) AND A
SALARY OF THE LEVEL OF A D-1 IN THE UN SYSTEM WAS MADE UP
BY SOME INDEPENDENT ORGANIZATION.

2. ACCORDING TO MR. PEEL, IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSIONS, IT
WAS AGREED BY THE UNDP RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE, WHO IS
RESIDENT IN MAURITIUS, THAT THE UNDP SHOULD PROVIDE A
"TOPPING-OFF ARRANGEMENT" UNDER THE OPAS PROGRAM THROUGH
ITS OFFICE OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION. WE UNDERSTAND THAT
THE RESREP EVEN INCORPORATED PROVISIONS FOR THIS ARRANGE-
MENT INTO HIS BUDGET.

3. MR. PEEL CALLED THE MISSION THIS MORNING (AUGUST 7)
TO ADVISE THAT, DUE TO DELAYS IN GETTING CLEARANCE FROM
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THE UNDP IN NEW YORK, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SEYCHELLES
IS ABOUT TO OFFER THE POSITION OF ATTORNEY GENERAL TO
ANOTHER CANDIDATE -- CERTAINLY A NON-AMERICAN -- UNLESS
AGREEMENT IS FORTHCOMING IMMEDIATELY THAT UNDP CAN PROVIDE
A "TOPPING-OFF ARRANGEMENT" WHICH WOULD PERMIT MR. PEEL
TO TAKE THE JOB. THIS, HOWEVER, WILL HAVE TO BE DONE
WITHIN THE NEXT DAY, OR WE UNDERSTAND THAT IT WILL BE TOO

LATE.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: MISSION REQUESTS THAT USUN URGENTLY CONTACT APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS IN UNDP/OTC TO DETERMINE WHAT THE STATE OF THIS QUESTION IS AND TO INFORM MISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATELY. WE REQUEST THAT YOU DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO GET UNDP/OTC TO COME FORWARD WITH THE "TOPPING OFF ARRANGEMENT" THAT HAS BEEN PROPOSED SO THAT MR. PEEL, WHO IS EMINENTLY QUALIFIED FOR THIS POSITION, WILL BE ABLE TO ACCEPT IT. ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, WE WOULD APPRECIATE HAVING A REPORT THAT WE CAN PASS ON TO MR. PEEL ASAP.
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